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IS THAT LINEAGE RIGHT?

A training manual for the examiner of lineage papers, with helpful hints for the beginner in genealogical research.

Issued by
National Society
of the
Daughters of the American Revolution

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A training manual for the examiner of lineage papers, with helpful hints for the beginner in genealogical research.

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Prepared by the

Registrar General.

This booklet was prepared at the request of the Registrar General, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, for use in training persons in the verification of lineage papers submitted as applications for membership in the Society.

As it was realized that it would be quite useful to persons preparing application papers, since it would enable them to give a preliminary review of the paper from the standpoint of the verifier, it is made available to everyone.

Some of the matters discussed cover problems that are especially perplexing to those who are beginning research in genealogy, and may answer questions that may arise.

It is the hope of the compilers, as well as of the President General and the Registrar General that it will be helpful to all interested in the lives of their forefathers and that it will aid in developing more and better genealogical research.

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1776 D Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006

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PART I.—VERIFICATION PROCEDURE

1. Action by Chapter Registrar or similar officer.—

(a) *Preliminary scanning.—*

(1) A supposedly complete application paper, setting forth the line of descent, service, etc., is submitted.

(2) Examine the stated lineage for completeness and reasonableness:

(*a*) Do the names suggest that ancestors have been listed who obviously do not belong in the direct line of descent?

(*b*) Do the dates suggest that too few or too many generations are shown to constitute a reasonable ancestral line?

(*c*) Does it appear that collateral rather than lineal ancestors have been included?

(*d*) Compute the dates between one generation and the next to insure possibility in the data shown, that is, that a child is not listed as born after its mother's death (unless at time of mother's death) or before the birth of the parents or when either parent was under a reasonable age for marriage, etc. (See par. 2 (d).)

(3) Examine the stated genealogical references.—

(*a*) Are they keyed into the numbered generations so as to make verification possible without extensive research?

(*b*) If references are to previously accepted lineage papers or similar acceptable unpublished but available records are facts on such records clearly set forth in the appropriate places on the application, supported by reference to the applicable "National Number" and is the number of such record clearly and correctly indicated? Is such record still acceptable? Is it on the same ancestor?

(*c*) Are references to other unpublished data supported by *accompanying* certified, attested, or photo copy of each record, which clearly indicates the source of each? (See App. C.) If a statement other than by the applicant as to personal knowledge of facts as to two generations is to be used for evidence, is it in the form of an acceptable affidavit?

(*d*) Are references to published data indicated by volume and page, and the author and full title of the volume given?

(*e*) Has the applicant retained a copy of her application and a copy of each item of supporting data? Remember that unpublished evidence used in verification of a record must be placed on file with the Society as authority for the acceptance of that record. Its return should not be requested.

(4) Examine the stated information about the ancestor's service.—

(*a*) Is the service stated within the dates of acceptable service under the rules of the Society? (See App. D.)

(*b*) Is the source of information about the service described sufficiently to permit identification?

(b) *Processing.*—

(1) If the application does *not* pass the above scanning procedure, the applicant should be notified of its inadequacy, and it be pointed out the specific data that should be secured before it is resubmitted.

(2) If the application *does* pass the above scanning procedure, processing should be initiated by the Chapter Registrar by acknowledging its receipt and telling the applicant that she will be notified if it is found during the verification of the application that additional information is needed.

2. Action by genealogist or other verifier.—

(a) *Methods.*—There are many methods of verifying lineage papers, and each organization should determine the one to be followed by its examiners, and all examiners should use the same method. This will insure uniformity in accepting and rejecting applications.

(b) *Preferred procedure.*—

(1) If the references given are merely checked to see if they support the statements on the application, all that is done is to pick up typographical errors or mistakes in interpretation by the person preparing it. While this is important, it is even more important to ascertain whether anything has been written on the family or locality which states other or con-

flicting facts and, if so, whether such conflicting facts can be supported by adequate evidence. It must also be determined whether the best evidence available has been used. The procedure outlined below meets these needs.

(2) References to unpublished sources are to be supported by acceptable copies (photo or certified), which should accompany the application. These are often birth and death certificates, Bible records, etc., used to support recent generations and, barring future developments during verification, are usually acceptable. So the first step is to check them. If they are satisfactory, the next step is to go to the library.

(3) In the library, get all the genealogies published on that family in book form or of sufficient importance to be indexed in reference lists of genealogies. A quick look will usually weed out those that do not affect the line in which you are interested. Then begin with the ancestor constituting eligibility (such as the one performing the Revolutionary service) and make notes from the genealogy of the pertinent facts about him (such as name, place and date of birth, marriage, and death, place of residence or burial, name of and same facts for wife or husband). Do the same for each generation in the line of descent on the paper you are verifying. Do not check against the statements on the paper; look at the paper only to see through which child in each generation the line of descent comes. Do this from each genealogy you have found that covers the line of descent or any part thereof. At the same time, notice whether the genealogy is an acceptable one, and whether it cites authorities for statements pertinent to the facts being checked. (See par. 5(c).) Also, in noting the author and title of the genealogy, note also the date of publication or of the preface.

(4) Now look at the application. Begin with the earliest ancestor and see whether there are available in the library copies (or originals) of source materials, i.e., original public records, church or burial records, etc., for the area in which each event took place, such as, in New England towns, vital records, and elsewhere, marriage records, abstracts of wills and deeds, etc. Check these against the paper, noting any pertinent items found on a separate sheet.

(5) Look in any available county histories for the counties in which the family lived between 1800 and 1890, and note any pertinent information. (Usually the portions of such history to consult are the lists of early settlers, marriages, deaths, participation in Revolution or War of 1812, and the biographical or family sketches.)

(6) Take all these notes (from genealogies, source materials, histories, etc.) and check each note against the application. In many instances there will be no difference; then, if the evidence and the source of it is sufficient and acceptable, check the item on the application, or add the better applicable reference you have found and check the item. When there is a difference, note it on a plain sheet of paper, using the generation number to identify it. Example: When the application says: "#4 John Doe . . . died Halifax Co. about 1785" and you have found other facts, note on your work sheet:

"#4. He d. betw. May 6, 1787 and June 3, 1791.
Ref.: Halifax Co., Va. Deeds Bk. 6, p.457. Halifax Co., Va. Admin. vol. 2, p.101."

If there are different dates or places for the same events in your notes, or differing names of a wife or husband, note them all, indicating the reference which supports each and when you have completed all, determine which is based on the best authority, or if none is on sufficient authority.

(7) Through the preceding described checking, you may have covered all the references given on the application, but if not, then check the references given on the application which are still unchecked, making the same type of note, and compare that with the work sheet you have prepared. If there are differences, make appropriate entries on your work sheet.

(8) After you have thus checked the line of descent, check the service in the same manner.

(9) If, when this type of checking has been completed, there are still facts, dates, etc., not verified, consult bibliographies, library card catalogues and other indexes, local histories and such other records as may be available, to see

whether the line can be proved by collateral or other evidence, or to ascertain lesser known sources. Having located such sources, examine them, making notes, as outlined above, of pertinent items found.

(10) Remember, however, that the applicant is required and is supposed to have submitted a complete and accurate paper, with sufficient evidence to support it, and that the Society cannot, in justice to other applicants, devote to verification of one paper a greater number of hours than the initiation or verification fee paid by the applicant will justify. Therefore, after the maximum number of hours covered by such fee has been devoted to the paper, the applicant should be notified of the specific problems that have been developed and required to furnish the needed evidence.

(c) *Usual or practicable procedure.*—

(1) Due to time limitations and lack of sufficient personnel, it is not practicable to follow the above outlined preferred procedure in all cases or at all times, or even as a general rule. The following procedure is therefore generally followed when experienced genealogists are available.

(2) The applicant or person preparing the application is expected to have ascertained whether anything written about the family or locality states facts which conflict with those in her paper and if so, that the evidence in her paper is sufficient to overcome and outweigh such statements.

(3) The verifier checks the references to see if they support the statements on the application and that no error has been made in the interpretation of the evidence submitted. If the references are acceptable and sufficient, and the evidence thus furnished seems adequate and authentic, the paper is accepted.

(4) If the evidence does not seem sufficient or conflicts develop, printed vital records, church and cemetery records, and other source materials, or acceptable genealogies and local histories are examined, as outlined in par. 2(b). In this connection, see par. 2(b)(10).

(d) *Things for which to watch.*—

(1) *Dates.*—Be sure that the dates are reasonable.

See that the date of birth of the child is such that the mother would not be too old or too young, or if claimed as a posthumous child, that the birth was not too long after the proved date of the father's death.

(2) *Localities.*—See that the localities are reasonable for the time and area involved, and if not, that there is sufficient and adequate explanation for them. For example: If the marriage took place in Dedham, Mass., in 1760, and the parents died in Dedham, Mass., between 1795 and 1810, question the birth of their child in upper South Carolina, in 1782. True, the parents might have gone there and then returned, but migration even of one couple from Dedham to upper South Carolina at that time would be most unusual, and evidence to show it took place should be furnished. It is more likely that the applicant or her genealogist found a person with a name similar to her ancestor in some record and assumed such person was identical with her man. Any departure from the normal should be authenticated.

(e) *Consideration of certain requirements on lineage papers.*—

(1) Parentage must be proved—

(*a*) Although, when there is no indication of error, the names, dates and places in the generations of the parents and grandparents and the fact of such relationship, are accepted from personal knowledge of the applicant, as supported by her affidavit to the application, yet the applicant would be wise to include evidence covering all data in these generations and especially of the connection between the generations. This will prevent any questions arising in the future and also will place these facts on record.

(*b*) Connections between generations earlier than the grandparents must be proved.

(*c*) A Bible record is usually acceptable. However, it is advisable to have submitted the title page and the entire record from the Bible, not merely extracts which show the particular name, date or fact involved. This will enable the examiner to judge the authenticity of the Bible record. When practicable, a photocopy is greatly to be preferred to a mere

typed or other copy, even though such copy be certified. But see par. 4.

(*d*) Of equal importance is a statement in a public record (such as vital records) that this particular child was born on a given date, the child of parents who are named therein. Such records are, however, to be found only in a small percentage of the cases prior to two generations ago. Nearly all towns in the New England states kept some form of vital records, but many are incomplete. Other states did not, as a rule, keep such records until comparatively recent years, except possibly in some instances for a short period of time. (See Part II, par. 3.)

(*e*) If a Bible or vital record cannot be found, a church record of baptism should be furnished. These, however, are difficult to locate in many cases. Following this in evidentiary value are wills, deeds, orphans court records, guardianship papers, etc.

(*f*) Parent and child relationship may in some instances be assumed from the 1850 or later census returns and is usually stated in the 1880 census.

(2) *Dates.*—

(*a*) Dates should be checked against public records or against Bible records, if such are in existence. (See subpar. (1)(*c*) and (*d*) above and Part II, par. 3.)

(*b*) Unless the Society's rule calls for a different treatment, a date should not be given as "about" or "ca." Instead, give the dates on either side of the event that "box it in", such as the date of a will and the probate thereof, or for a woman previously married, the date of her previous husband's death and the date she is first mentioned as the wife of her present husband.

(3) *Places are to be indicated.*—

(*a*) Unless there is evidence to show the event occurred at a specific place, the place should not be definitely stated. When a certain place seems probable, it may be so stated as "Prob. at (name of place)". Merely because a man lived in a certain town or county is no reason to assume he died there; yet there is an advantage in indicating a prob-

ability. The reason for such probability should be furnished by a reference to the source which indicates it.

(*b*) The name of the place as it was known at the time the event occurred should be the name used. This is particularly important when the county or town was subsequently divided. If the exact locality is known it is helpful if the present name is also given. For example: "Rowan Co., that portion now Surry Co., N. C."

(4) *General reasonableness and credibility.*—Before the verifier can be sure of the accuracy of the conclusions, except in the rare case of having a high-priority citation for every single fact, it must be determined that the pedigree as a whole is reasonable under the conditions, background, and area in which each generation lived, and when anything is out of the ordinary, that there is definite evidence to support it.

3. Types of Evidence and their value.—

(a) *Facts to be proved.—*

(1) For each person on the lineage paper certain definite facts are needed: Name, name of wife or husband, date and place of birth, marriage (and death when applicable), of both parties, and for that one of the couple through which the line is traced, the names of the father and mother. All of these facts are desirable; a goodly number of them are essential if a pedigree is to be thoroughly proved.

(2) It is not sufficient that the applicant or the person preparing the lineage paper, or even that the verifier *knows* some of these facts. Each must be *proved* by acceptable evidence, indicated on the application and available to the verifier.

(b) *Evidence in general.—*

(1) What is meant by evidence? Evidence is the means of proving or disproving any fact. The type of evidence required to prove a fact varies according to the fact to be proved, the locality, and the period in which the event to be proved took place.

(2) The basic rule is: "Every fact must be proved by the best evidence possible under the circumstances of the particular case."

(3) All evidence is not equally good. The "best evidence rule" makes it important to know the types of evidence and their respective value. Then the highest type, the most valuable evidence, is always to be sought for and used, and only when it cannot be found is the next type in value admissible and so on down the line of evidence.

(c) *Classification of evidence: definitions.*—

(1) Evidence may be roughly divided into five classes, usually known as (*a*) Primary evidence, (*b*) Collateral evidence, (*c*) Secondary evidence, (*d*) Circumstantial evidence, and (*e*) Reported evidence. Primary evidence is of the highest value, then the other types descending in sequence in the order listed, with reported evidence of least value.

(2) *Definition of each type of evidence.*—

(*a*) *Primary evidence* is that from a record when the record itself is the cause or result of the action or fact to be proved. Examples are: vital statistics, church records, wills, administrations, tombstones, etc. Primary evidence should be used to the fullest extent practicable.

(b) *Collateral evidence.*—This is when the evidence is collateral to the purpose of the record but nevertheless is an integral part of it. Examples are deeds where a man speaks of his daughter by her married name, or a deed by a husband and wife of property inherited by the wife from her named father. If no official marriage record was made, or it has been destroyed, or cannot be located, the fact of the marriage may be proved from such collateral evidence.

(*c*) *Secondary evidence* consists of statements made by persons of facts they know of their own knowledge, such as depositions under oath, old letters relating contemporary events, etc. Old depositions are almost as good as primary evidence for many facts, as makers then were careful as to what they said under oath. But that does not mean that always the facts were true, merely because someone said they were. When a deposition was made for purposes of a law suit, each side would file depositions asserting their understanding or construction of facts on which they relied to prove their case. Both sides could not be right. When there is a

contradiction, additional evidence must be sought. All too often modern affidavits have no evidentiary value, for almost everyone will swear to the accuracy of a copy without checking it, or to a fact whether they know it or merely believe it. The value of letters, recollections, etc. varies according to the circumstances. The statement must be made by a person speaking from his or her *own knowledge* of the fact, and should relate the reason he or she knows it to be a fact. The narrator must have seen the incident, heard it, or been present at the time. An exception to this rule that a person present is presumed to be able to speak of his own knowledge, is that, unless it is challenged, a person's statement as to his or her own place and date of birth and the names of his or her own parents is usually acceptable, even though, although present, there could be no personal knowledge of the birth. Many statements are only partly of the writer's own knowledge, and thus are partly secondary evidence and partly hearsay; such statements must be carefully differentiated and each part given the proper weight and value.

(*d*) *Circumstantial* evidence is so-called because it is created when two or more facts are so related that if one, which can be proved by a higher class of evidence, is true, then the other is necessarily true or so extremely probable as to warrant acceptance. An example is that when a church record shows the marriage of a woman, stating she is the daughter of a definitely identified man, and within the next ten years records show the marriage of that man, it may be concluded from such circumstantial evidence that the man has been married before and had at least one daughter by that previous marriage. Genealogists are often led astray by circumstantial evidence, particularly because of confusion of identities. To accept this type of evidence, the verifier must be sure that the one fact is *definitely* proved and that if that fact is true, the fact it is desired to establish *must* therefore be true.

(*e*) *Reported evidence* is hard to define. It covers the class of material which is the basis for many county histories, biographies, etc. It is information collected by someone from others who have knowledge of the facts. When such

information was secured from those who participated in certain events or otherwise knew of them, and *secured for other than genealogical purposes,* it has a definite value. In using this type of evidence it must be remembered that the person relating the incident and the writer both had ideas in their minds which necessarily colored the facts recorded. So such evidence must be considered in the light of the purpose for which it was collected or recorded.

(3) *Hearsay,* that which one has been told, or family tradition, is not evidence and cannot be accepted. While it may furnish clues for the genealogical researcher, and so be helpful to the person preparing the lineage paper originally, it is not to be considered in any way by the verifier.

4. Suggestions for checking statements of fact.—

(a) *Dates in general.*—Errors are often found in the source from which a date is taken. Mistakes are often made in reading Bible records when the ink has faded irregularly or the reader is not familiar with the old form of writing certain figures. Also, all too often a record was not made at the time of the event and the person making it accidentally entered a wrong figure in recording the date. Therefore, when there is any question as to the accuracy of a date it is advisable to find more than one source, if it is possible to do so.

(b) *Death dates* from different sources frequently vary. If a person was buried in a modern cemetery there is usually a card index or other record of burials in the cemetery office. This, as a rule, does not show the date of death but is a record of the date of interment. The death may have occurred some distance from the place of burial and the date of burial would be several days after the date of death, or there may have been a re-interment. Therefore, the source of the information as to the date of death given on the application should always be required. Errors are frequently made in reading the dates on old tombstones, partly due to weathering of the stone and partly, as with other old records, due to unfamiliarity with the old forms of figures, or even of letters. Errors were also apt to be made in cutting inscriptions on a stone. In many instances a tombstone date is exactly one year or two

years earlier or later than the date of death shown in other records. Few tombstones are placed immediately after burial and sometimes years elapse before they are erected, so it is easy to see that a mistake may be made. It is well, when practicable, and in case there is any question, to secure the date of death as shown on the tombstone, the date of interment from the cemetery records, and to search for an obituary in the local newspaper. An obituary usually gives the correct day of the week but if it is printed in a weekly newspaper, there may have been a lapse of a week before it appeared in print, so this must be taken into consideration. While obituaries are valuable for clues, all too often the information is furnished to the newspaper by a friend who is "helping" the family and often is quite garbled as to the life of the deceased and even as to the family, so obituaries are not conclusive evidence. Death certificates may err in the exact date of death, as the attending physician may have waited two or three weeks and then written up several records at one time. (When the obituary in the local newspaper and a tribute in a church periodical gave Sept. 4 as the date of death, and the cemetery record showed interment on Sept. 6, the date of Sept. 18 on the official death certificate was obviously an error.) So the date of death as given on the lineage paper should be stated clearly and be supported by proper copies of the source from which it was obtained. If such source is a death certificate, a Bible record, an obituary notice, a record of interment, or other primary evidence, it may be accepted unless something throws doubt on it. In the latter case, as many as possible of the above mentioned records should be obtained in order that the correct date may be established. When an obituary is furnished as evidence, it should indicate where and when it was printed and in what paper, or from whence it was obtained.

(c) *Birth dates.*—If the source is a Bible record, a birth certificate, an obituary notice, or computed from a death certificate, tombstone inscription, or census record, it may be accepted unless something throws doubt on it, or more exact information is needed for purposes of identification. In such case, as when a death date is in question, as many as possible of the above records should be assembled in order to deter-

mine the correct date. A Bible may be incorrect for the same reasons as mentioned above under death dates. Frequently on an application the birth date is deduced from the age at death. This, however, is usually only an approximation and may be at great variance with the facts. Many women kept from their own children the exact date of their birth, particularly if they were older than their husbands. For those persons who were born after 1840, it is a good idea to attempt to establish the age by the first census taken after that person's birth and then to check it in successive census records, as these will probably not be too drastically out of focus for the first two or three census enumerations after birth. (See Part II, par. 1.) In the case of a discrepancy of a year in the date of birth of the Revolutionary soldier or his wife (if born before 1752) born in January, February or March, the lack of uniformity in the transcription of the double date must be taken into consideration. In copying some records, the copyist dropped the final digit, in others the first. (See App. A.) When months were stated by numerals in original records there have been many errors in converting them to named months. These possibilities must be taken into consideration by the verifier in attempting to resolve discrepancies in the sources consulted or submitted from unpublished records. An exact copy should always be required in the latter case if a photocopy is not furnished.

(d) *Census records.*—While usually the ages of children under 16 in a census record may be assumed to be fairly accurate, there are many inaccuracies in those of adults. The date in any one census record should not be considered as definitive and exact, but that same person may be identified in a succession of census reports and decision reached as to the approximate age based on the findings from all of them. Often a woman who is actually between 30 and 40 aged only 5 to 8 years in a 10-year period, whereas after the age of 60 she aged more than 10 years in such period. The man's age varies apparently according to his physical well-being. A man of over 60 who was hale and hearty is frequently reported as being in his fifties. This probably arose partly because the person may not have known his exact age, but much more

likely because the member of the family giving the census report did not know the age and guessed at it. A place of birth indicated in a census record is nearly always helpful, for while the person may not have been born there, if not that of birth, it does indicate the place of residence of the father either shortly before or shortly after the birth. Usually, in the absence of Bible records, vital records, or birth certificates, the date indicated in a single census record, if logical and probable, may be accepted without further question, but if there is doubt all available census records should be examined.

(e) *Pension records.*—The ages as given in a pension record are not necessarily correct unless supported in that record by an original source, such as a Bible record, etc. Again, the reason is that a man may not have known his own age, or because of his feeble health felt and wanted to be thought in his own locality to be older than he really was. In connection with other statements in the pension, it must be remembered that the declaration was a "self-serving" one, that is, he would naturally give as many facts as he could remember which would be helpful in establishing his claim and conveniently forget any that might not be helpful. However, as in the case of other such statements by a person, unless there is reason to question it, a man's statement as to his exact date of birth, made in an affidavit to support his application for a pension, may be accepted.

5. Printed materials as evidence.—

(a) The types of books most commonly used by genealogists are: source materials, family histories, collected genealogies, compendiums, and local histories, while the periodicals include one or more of these several types of material. There is a tendency to assume that if a thing is printed it is true. This is far from being the case. The same standard of credibility applies to the printed work as to the unpublished original, with the added reservation that there may have been errors made in the transcription or in the printing.

(b) *Printed source materials,* with due allowance for omissions and errors in copying and printing, are given the same

value as the similar type of unpublished records. It is usually easy to judge from the volume whether care was used in its preparation and whether the copyist knew the handwriting of the period.

(c) *Printed works other than compilations of source materials.*—

(1) Such works are acceptable only to the extent that the source of the statement of fact is given and such source is susceptible of being checked.

(2) *Family histories.*—

(a) Donald Lines Jacobus once wrote that "Family histories are in general the least trustworthy sources for establishing lines of descent." The reasons for this statement are not hard to find. Data included in a published genealogy are derived from a variety of sources—primary records (wills, deeds, tax lists, military pensions, church registers, etc.), the faulty recollections of members of the family, and other printed books which may have been carelessly compiled. The early generations may be based on original documents which the compiler may or may not have transcribed correctly and from which he may or may not have drawn correct or erroneous conclusions. Information on recent generations is usually based on the personal knowledge and private records of relatives and *generally* is accurate.

(*b*) In evaluating a genealogy, certain criteria may be considered: (1) the author's reputation as a careful and critical genealogist, and (2) the attention paid by the compiler to source materials, at least for the early generations. If the author is a genealogist who is well known for his attention to primary sources, his careful sifting of evidence, and the soundness of his conclusions, the work may be accepted by the verifier virtually without question.

(*c*) The real problem is in considering the reliability of a printed genealogy by a little-known compiler. He may arrive at erroneous conclusions, based on his inexperience as a researcher and his inability to evaluate the evidence. A case in point is Daniel Kolb Cassel's *A Genea-Biographical History of the Rittenhouse Family* (1893), in which he confused the unrelated names of Rittershausen and Rittinghausen

(now Rittenhouse) and falsely concluded that the Rittenhouses of Pennsylvania were derived from the noble Rittershausen family of Westphalia and earlier from the House of Hapsburg. Statements such as these are worthless, and mislead the well-intentioned researcher whose knowledge is not sufficient to detect the errors. One should view with suspicion any genealogy that begins with the statement that three brothers came to this country in colonial days. There are a few such instances, but only a few, and any competent genealogist would support such a statement with ample evidence. It is a tradition in nearly every family and an author who makes the statement without giving evidence to support it thereby shows he accepts traditions uncritically and is very inexperienced in genealogical research; his other statements may therefore be equally unreliable.

(*d*) The careful genealogist cites his sources and abstracts them or quotes them in full to support his statements. Examples of the best type of genealogies written by amateurs include Robert C. Moon's *The Morris Family of Philadelphia* (5 vols. 1898-1909) and Howard Barclay French's *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French* (2 vols. 1909). These compilers, both now deceased, lacked the reputation of such genealogists as Jacobus and others, but the stately volumes produced by them demonstrate the care with which they prepared their family histories.

(3) *Collected genealogies and Compendiums.*—Illustrations of these types of genealogical literature are Jordan's *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania,* Mackenzie's *Colonial Families of the United States,* and Virkus' *The Compendium of American Genealogy.* The publishers and editors of these and similar works are not responsible for the statements contained in them; they are based on information provided by members of the families, which must be verified by an independent investigation. Some collections list "authorities" at the end of the family history without indicating the exact statements supported by such references. Sometimes there are statements of fact for which there are no such supporting citations. Therefore collections of genealogies which merely contain a bibliography or a collection of citations for

the genealogy as a whole, rather than for specific statements must be considered as acceptable only to the extent that the citations are looked up and found to support the facts of interest to the verifier.

(4) *Local histories.*—Family data in local histories vary in quality. Such histories written prior to 1885 may be considered as generally accurate for the family history of the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary period for they are usually based on statements made by members of the family who had personal knowledge of the persons and the events described. But local histories published later cannot be accepted unquestioningly, insofar as the early generations of the families are concerned. And no local histories published later than 1850 can be considered as authoritative with respect to persons or family history prior to 1750. The rule is the same as for other types of evidence; the information must at least purport to have been furnished by someone who knew it of his own knowledge, not one who is merely repeating what he has been told or a tradition. As in the case of collected genealogies and compendiums, an independent investigation of the family must be made in order to assure the accuracy of genealogical data.

(d) (1) No matter who compiled it, if a genealogy does not cite the exact source, statements in it are subject to corroboration.

(2) In judging a volume, do not be deceived by the handsomeness of the binding, quality of paper, etc. The important point is: Does it cite sufficient evidence to support the statements made therein?

(3) Collections of genealogies compiled by commercial firms may be utilized only to the extent that they give references to acceptable sources and those sources must then be examined.

(4) A genealogy that includes an overabundance of unverified tradition should not be accepted as a reference for any facts except possibly for the contemporary generation.

(5) If source material from which the facts being verified were taken is used in a collection not otherwise ac-

ceptable as a reference and is listed in such volume, such source material should be checked. If it is conclusive and supports the facts, such a genealogy or collection may be used as a reference in the application if prefixed by the words, "Citations in . . . , page . . ."

6. Vexatious problems.—

(a) *Marriage.—*

(1) Proving a marriage is one of the most vexatious problems. There were various ways in which the status of marriage could be created and these ways varied from century to century and generation to generation.

(2) While in England and Scotland the Church (meaning the Catholic Church prior to the Reformation, and after the Reformation the Established Church) had the authority to determine whether a marriage was binding in the eyes of the Church, it nevertheless was considered desirable from the standpoint of public policy that the status of marriage be recognized whenever possible, that is, when the parties were of an age to know what they were doing, when they were physically and mentally capable of contracting marriage, and when there was no prior commitment which barred a marriage. Therefore, the open acknowledgement by the couple, and living together as man and wife, constituted a legal marriage even though there was no ceremony by a priest of the church, the calling of banns, the announcement of intentions, or issuance of a license or bond, even though one or all of these requirements were in the law. Although not generally realized, it was merely through this provision that in this country prior to the Revolution Quaker marriages and marriages by non-conforming clergymen (such as, in Virginia, Presbyterians and Baptists) were legal.

(3) In the Scottish Highlands, the most socially approved form of marriage was a ceremony performed by the head of the clan; again, no sanction of the church was required.

(4) Marriages by a minister of any of the dissenting groups (meaning by this any religious group whose ministers performed marriage ceremonies but where that particular group was not recognized under the law) were perfectly legal,

but not because the ceremony was performed; instead it was because of the open acknowledgment of the marriage contract and status by the parties concerned.

(5) It can be seen that this has a definite effect on the recording of marriages and therefore in many instances on the possibility of finding a definite record of a marriage. The dissenting ministers frequently did not keep records of the marriages performed by them, and even in those cases where they did, such records were personal records, and are often no longer available.

(6) Even if a marriage was performed in the Established Church, the announcement of the intention of marriage (known as "calling the banns") was made orally by the minister and no record made of it; when the ceremony was later performed, it was supposedly entered in the parish record, but sometimes it was not, and again, in many instances such registers are no longer available.

(7) In some localities and at some periods, the practice of requiring a "marriage bond" was instituted. This was an agreement by the groom, or someone acting for him, and by a male representative of the bride, usually a father or brother, that there was no impediment to the marriage. It was partly, in some instances, a revenue raising project, but it was also considered desirable in order to insure that a couple who were married outside the established church, either by open acknowledgment or by a ceremony performed by a minister of a dissenting sect, would not be able later to deny the fact of marriage on the grounds that an impediment had existed at the time.

(8) Marriages could be performed by a civil officer, as well as by a minister or by mutual contract of the parties. After the Revolution marriages by a Justice of the Peace were very common, particularly in the areas where there were few churches. Records of a Justice of the Peace were not public records and usually no public record of such marriages exist. Any record made was merely made by the Justice of the Peace for his own information. Now and then an old "J.P. Notebook" is found in which he entered such marriages, often in connec-

tion with notation of the fee received, and therefore only showing the name of the man. Sometimes the Justice of the Peace gave a certificate to the bride that he had married the couple, and in such cases often made a record of it on a corresponding slip that he kept. Occasionally an old bundle of such records are found. But as a rule, records of such marriages are nonexistent.

(9) Therefore, in preparing a lineage paper, evidence of marriage should be supplied if at the time and place the marriage took place such records were kept and the couple was known to have been married in accordance with such requirements. If no such record can be found, statement should be made as to such investigation, and the marriage proved by other evidence. In the vast majority of cases, even to as late a date as 1850 in most states and 1880 or later in others few such records were made in comparison with the number of marriages that took place. So if the fact of the marriage is established by collateral evidence, by the reference of the husband to the wife or the wife to the husband as such, by the couple being considered married in the locality in which they lived, or their children duly acknowledged as children of a husband and wife, evidence of the *date* of marriage will not be required—as in the great majority of cases it never existed or can never be supplied.

(10) Genealogists not familiar with the laws and customs in effect at various periods in the past sometimes fall into the error of assuming that a marriage did not exist because of a reference in a church record questioning it. Even though marriage outside the established church was legal, such church (whether Congregational in Massachusetts Bay or Episcopal in Virginia) did not relinquish its right over marriages. At various times the church governing body would seek to enforce that right by prescribing penalties or denying certain privileges to persons who had contracted such marriages. The action was usually initiated by the vestry or other governing body charging that the couple was living together without marriage (i.e., marriage by a minister of the recognized or established church) and calling them to account. The majority of such cases in the records were because of Quaker marriages and

that sect refused to have a church ceremony under any condition and openly defied the power of the vestry or other governing body. However, in numerous instances those accused were members of other dissenting denominations or those who did not believe in a religious ceremony. In some instances, to escape the consequences, such a couple would then have a ceremony performed but in many instances they defied the authority of the church. So such a charge does not necessarily imply an irregular connection. Even though such a record exists, the fact of the marriage may be proved from the usual sources and the action of the church disregarded.

(b) *Names.*—

(1) The unwary genealogist is often misled by surnames. An American family with a perfectly good English name may sometimes turn out to have its origin in continental Europe. As examples, the Seeley family of upstate New York was originally French Usilié; the Carpenter family of Philadelphia was German Zimmerman, which means "carpenter"; a number of Baker families translated their name from Becker (Bäcker, meaning "baker"); Schmidt is now Smith; and so on. When dealing with old Louisiana families, a researcher is apt to find that modern French names had German origins, for their ancestors settled on the famous German Coast of that colony perhaps as early as 1720. For instance, the German name Zweig, signifying "branch", is now Labranche, the French equivalent. The German Vogel can vaguely be recognized in the French Fauquel. British names have also undergone unusual transformations, such as the Scottish Stephenson which occasionally is Stebbins, Phimister-Phemister which is Feamster in Virginia, and the Welsh family of Parry, originally a patronymic, which is the contraction of Ap Harry (son of Harry). Reed and Read are identical names of British origin.

(2) Sounds are frequently interchangeable, such as "b" and "p", "d" and "t", and "f" and "v". This was especially true in names of German origin (Dambach-Tambaugh, Voight-Focht, etc., etc.). Among the oldest transformations of German names are Brumbach-Brownback and Rubincam-Revercomb. In one census record, Achenbach shows up as Ackingback!

(3) Extreme care must be exercised with respect to the old Dutch names of New York. A modern family of Cooper may not have had an English origin but a Dutch one—Kuyper. Many a Johnson family will be found to have been Jansen. On the other hand, English families often settled in the Dutch colony and spelled their names according to the practice of their Dutch neighbors, such as Lake which became Leek in New Amsterdam, and Cole which became the Dutch Cool, the pronunciation being the same in both languages.

(4) The verifying genealogist should therefore give a close look at surnames. Researchers are known to have confused families by identifying as their ancestors persons bearing identical or translated surnames which were the same as their own family names, but were of a totally different origin.

(5) The verifier must therefore think of the sound, rather than the spelling, and place that sound against the background of dialect in the locality in which the record was made. Familiarity with the nicknames of the period will also be helpful.

(6) Another danger into which genealogists unconsciously fall is the identification of persons bearing the same given names. The fact that a man was named Samuel Tuttle of Morris Co., New Jersey, does not mean that he was identical with the Samuel Tuthill of the same neighborhood in Morris Co. who was living at the same time. Yet such an erroneous identification was made some years ago. It was finally proved that the Tuthills and Tuttles were totally unrelated families of Morris Co.; and that the two Samuels were born at approximately the same time (1723/24), attended the same church, the brother of one married the sister-in-law of the other, and that Samuel Tuttle died in 1782 and Samuel Tuthill died in 1814!

(7) Sometimes the presence of an unusual Christian name will indicate the family to which a particular person belonged. For instance, a Maxwell family in Albemarle and Augusta Counties, Virginia, and Jefferson County, Indiana, gave the forename, Bezaleel, to a number of its sons in the 18th and 19th centuries. Consequently, a Maxwell with Beza-

leel in his family *may* be descended from Bezaleel Maxwell (1751-1829), the Revolutionary war soldier, or from his uncle Bezaleel, or from the latter's son, Bezaleel Maxwell, who was born in 1767. On the other hand, even an uncommon name such as Bezaleel is not a sure guarantee of kinship—for an Ohio family of Maxwell with Bezaleel given to some of its 19th century members has been traced to a Pennsylvania line having no known connection with the Virginia Maxwells.

(8) This problem of names can be summed up in two related questions which must be kept in mind by a genealogist assigned to verify the lineage papers of one who has applied for admission to a society basing its membership on heredity: (1) Is the family (or families) claimed by the applicant actually in the same line as that which provides eligibility for membership; and (2) has the applicant, or the applicant's researcher, confused families with similar or identical surnames or given names?

(c) *Residence during the Revolution.*—

(1) The residence of the ancestor claimed as giving the qualifying service during the Revolution is important from the standpoint of the identification of the man with his service.

(2) If the qualifying service is civil service, the man was necessarily a resident of the town or county of which he was an officer or which he served. Therefore, a man of the same name who was a resident of another town or county is obviously not qualified on that service.

(3) In the case of military service, the assumption is that the ancestor living at the time of the Revolution was resident in the locality from which the military unit in which he served was recruited or raised. If it is claimed he served in a unit from some other geographical area, evidence is needed to explain such action, or evidence to conclusively identify the man in such unit with the man of the locality in which the ancestor lived.

(d) *Shifting State and county lines.*—

(1) One of the difficulties confronting genealogists is the problem of changing state and county lines. A family may have passed a whole generation in the same house on the same

plot of ground, and yet during the course of thirty years it may have resided, without moving, in two states and several counties. As an example of how boundaries have changed: Botetourt Co., Virginia, was formed in 1770 from Augusta and part of Rockbridge Counties. Two years later Botetourt was divided into four counties, one of which was Fincastle. The latter existed for only five years, its territory being divided in 1777 into the three counties of Kentucky, Montgomery (ancestral to several West Virginia counties), and Washington. In 1780 Kentucky County was formed into three counties, including Fayette. Bourbon County was created from Fayette in 1786, and three years later it gave birth to Mason County. The State of Kentucky came into existence in 1792, and included the last-named county within its territory. Thus, in 1800 a man who had lived on the same land in Mason County for less than a quarter of a century had resided in two states (Virginia and Kentucky) and five counties (Fincastle, Kentucky, Fayette, Bourbon, and Mason)—and he had not moved an inch! In order to search for the land transactions of this man, a genealogist must visit the following county seats: Maysville (Mason Co.), Paris (Bourbon Co.), Lexington (Fayette Co.), all in Kentucky, and Fincastle, the seat of Botetourt Co., Virginia.

(2) Some states impose special problems. Certain parts of Pennsylvania, for example, were claimed in pre-Revolutionary times by three other colonies; the northern part by Connecticut, the southern fringe by Maryland, and the southwestern area by Virginia. Each of these provinces sent settlers into their claimed portions. Thus, many northern Pennsylvania families are descended from early settlers of Connecticut. And in the southern and southwestern parts of Pennsylvania numerous families trace their lineage to Maryland and Virginia. In fact, that part of Pennsylvania which includes Pittsburgh came under Virginia's jurisdiction during the French and Indian War and was known as the District of West Augusta, being considered as part of Augusta Co. The Augusta Co. records at Staunton, Virginia, contain many deeds for lands presently in Pennsylvania.

(3) A knowledge of local history and of changing conditions at specified periods of time is thus essential for a gen-

ealogist, and even more so for a verifier of lineage papers. A number of excellent books on counties of some of the states and their formation have been published. Special mention should be made of Stanley Bearce Attwood's *The Length and Breadth of Maine* (1946) which lists every place name in the state, telling when each town was settled and established, and its changing boundaries, and which also contains excellent maps of the towns of Maine. Another invaluable book for those interested in North Carolina is David Leroy Corbitt's *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties, 1663-1943* (1950). Martha W. Hiden's splendid work published in 1957 by the Virginia 350th Anniversary Celebration Corporation, *How Justice Grew, Virginia Counties: An Abstract of Their Formation*, describes the organization of Virginia counties and of their offshoots which now form the States of Kentucky and West Virginia. The Department of Internal Affairs of Pennsylvania has published a unique *Genealogical Map of the Counties* of the Commonwealth. It shows the growth of Pennsylvania from the original three counties in 1682 to the formation of the 67th and last county in 1878. One of the small inset maps bordering the large map of Pennsylvania illustrates the claims made by Connecticut, Virginia and Maryland. A list, by states, of all counties in each state, showing the dates they were formed, the county seat, and the name of the parent county, appears both in E. Kay Kirkham's *Research in American Genealogy* (1956) (447 pp.), and in The Everton Publishers' *Handy Book for Genealogists* (3rd ed. 1957) (206 pp.).

7. Application based on previously accepted record.—

(a) *Review of formerly accepted papers necessary.—*

(1) If all applications were complete in all details, if all references were always complete, and if no new information or sources had been developed and no mistakes ever made, in the past seventy years, an application based on a previously accepted paper could be verified merely for the recent generations until the connection with the line of descent on such paper was reached. However, it is well known that in the early days of all hereditary societies few dates and places were required, there were numerous misidentifications due to lack

of information, and many compiled works were accepted as authentic evidence which are now known to have been based on tradition rather than fact.

(2) Every organization that wishes to maintain a high standard of historical truth must therefore constantly strive to bring their older records up to date and to supplement them from newly discovered data. Therefore, in verifying a paper based on an older paper it is necessary to consider the various data (names, places, dates, children, sources, etc.) reported by all descendants and the evidence adduced to support them.

(3) The ideal procedure would be to have this done at once for all "ancestors" in alphabetical sequence. Lack of sufficient experienced personnel and of funds for such purpose make this impracticable. Therefore, it must be understood when an incomplete paper, with few dates and places and no reference given for lineage or service, *even though previously accepted,* is used as basis for new application, the applicant MUST FURNISH sufficient additional dates and places to adequately identify each person in line of descent and to identify the Revolutionary ancestor with place of residence and service.

PART II. AIDS TO VERIFICATION

1. Census Records, Federal and State.—

(a) *The "first census".—*

(1) The first Federal census (1790) enumerated the inhabitants of the present states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia (which included West Virginia), North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky and the Southwest Territory (Tennessee). As far as is known, no enumeration was made of the Northwest Territory (area north and west of the Ohio River).

(2) The 1790 census returns for New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky and the Southwest Territory (Tennessee) are missing. The others were published many years ago by the U. S. Census Bureau, and are available in most large libraries; they are indexed. Published in that series and under the caption of the 1790 census for Virginia are state tax lists for the four years of 1782-1785 for about half of the counties of Virginia (all then available), which furnish a portion of the information appearing in the Census but which, of course, include only persons taxed. Tax lists for the same period for counties not included in the 1790 Census have since become available and are published in *Virginia Tax Payers, 1782-87, Other Than Those Published by the United States Census Bureau,* by Augusta B. M. Fothergill and John Naugle. A valuable record in lieu of the missing 1790 census is the tax list for Delaware, compiled by the State Archivist, and published by the National Genealogical Society as Special Publication No. 10, *Reconstruction of the 1790 Census of Delaware,* by Leon deValinger, Jr. Also based on tax lists is *"First Census" of Kentucky, 1790,* by Charles Brunk Heinemann, which helps to fill the gap created by the loss of Kentucky's first census.

(3) The enumeration for all these states listed free white males of sixteen years and upward, including heads of families, free white males of sixteen and under, free white females, in-

cluding heads of families, all other free persons, and slaves. *The only name given is that of the head of a family.*

(b) *Subsequent census enumerations.—*

(1) Every ten years thereafter an enumeration was made for each state and territory.

(2) Each succeeding census varied in form as a rule; 1800 and 1810 happen to be the same. These showed names of heads of families, with the number of males and females in various age groups, such as under 10, 10 to 16, 16 to 26, 26 to 45, and 45 and over; also were added the names of all other free persons (except Indians not taxed); again, slaves were shown in a family only by number. An aid for Kentucky is *"Second Census" of Kentucky, 1800,* by Garrett G. Clift, listing several thousand names. While this list does not cover all counties, it is valuable inasmuch as the first Kentucky census extant is that for 1810.

(3) The 1820 Census differs little from the preceding two, except that an additional column is added, this being one showing males from 16 to 18. This was primarily for military purposes. It must be remembered that those in this bracket were also shown in the bracket "16 to 26", so care must be taken not to mistake the total number in a family.

(4) The 1830 and 1840 enumerations show a new division in the age groups, being the same for male and female; in five year groupings up to the age of 20, then in ten year groupings, the last being "100 and over". The 1840 census added a column for all known pensioners of the United States at that date. In both 1830 and 1840, only the heads of families are shown by name.

(5) The 1850 census was the first which listed each individual by name, age, color, occupation, sex, amount of real estate and place of birth (state or country). Some enumerators even went so far as to give the specific county as well as the state of birth; one outstanding example being Edgar Co., Illinois. Such data are, of course, from the viewpoint of the searcher, of great value in pin-pointing a family's origin or former locale.

(6) The 1860 Census listing is much the same as that for 1850 but a column was added showing the value of a personal estate. Then, too, a valuable addition was a column indicating if a couple had been married within the year.

(7) The 1870 enumeration is much like that of 1860 except that several new columns were included, the more important being one which showed if the parents of those listed were of foreign birth, and one which showed the age of a child in months, if born within the year. The column showing personal estate was omitted.

(8) The 1880 census had much the same arrangement as 1870. The column showing real estate, however, was not included nor was the one showing personal estate reinserted. The most important columns appearing for the first time were those which showed the relationship of all persons in a household, and the birthplace (state or country) of the parents of all those enumerated.

(c) None of the census records from 1800 to 1880 inclusive have been published, except now and then when partial schedules of some states or counties have been issued as a private enterprise or in some historical or genealogical magazine. However, the DAR Library has microfilms of the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 census of all states. The majority of the states have purchased microfilms of the census of that state and they are available in the respective State Libraries. The National Archives, Washington, D. C., has a list of microfilms of census records which are available for purchase. These include the census of 1830 to 1880 inclusive and a few counties or states from some of the early census enumerations. These are listed in two publications, *List of National Archives Microfilm Publications,* and *Federal Population Censuses, 1840-80* which may be secured by request to The National Archives, Washington, D. C. The price of each reel is stated therein.

(d) In the various census schedules, the name of a city, town, or township is not always given. Furthermore, leeway was given the enumerator as to the time factor in obtaining his data; obviously an enumerator in one part of the country

might be better able to do his work at a different time than that in another part of the country, much depending on local conditions. However, there was an official enumeration date, such as June 1 in 1860.

(e) *Special enumerations.*—

(1) In addition to the regular census returns, there have been special enumerations about which mention might be made, as some of them provide information of interest to the genealogist.

(2) "Mortality schedules" were prepared, beginning in 1840. These listed by name all persons who had died within a year preceding the official date of the census, with age, sex, place of birth, and other pertinent information. Some years ago the Census Bureau received permission to return these Mortality Schedules to the state concerned if it wished to receive them, and to give those not so desired by the state to the DAR Library. In the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, June 1943, there was published a list of the Mortality records, indicating the place in each state to which they were given and those which were given to the DAR Library. There was also published a sample page, showing the information given therein. The District of Columbia DAR have since made indexes to the Georgia, Louisiana, Kentucky and Tennessee schedules in the DAR Library.

(3) *Union soldiers.*—In 1890 there was a special census made of Union soldiers of the Civil War, although full data, as in regular enumerations, were not required. However, since the 1890 census schedules were destroyed some years ago, this list of Union Veterans supplies the only information available from that census, and even it is not complete. Unfortunately, almost all the schedules for the states Alabama through Kansas and about half of those for Kentucky were misplaced or destroyed before transfer of the remaining schedules to The National Archives. Those for the remaining states can be seen there, and are also available on microfilm.

(4) *Cities of New York and Philadelphia.*—One unusual enumeration was made following the regular 1870 returns. A re-enumeration was ordered for the cities of New York and Philadelphia, both of which had requested it in the

belief that the regular 1870 census data were incorrect as to the number of inhabitants. Curiously enough, although an increase was shown by the re-enumeration, the margin of error was slight, being not over two per cent. The most valuable feature of this re-enumeration is that the streets and house numbers are given, although some information in the original returns is not shown in it.

(f) There were certain non-Federal enumerations made from time to time over the years. These include the various state census returns. For example: In New York state they were made every ten years but at the half-way point between the Federal enumerations. The 1855 schedule is especially valuable. Georgia is another state which authorized returns at various times but no returns have been found except those of 1831.

(g) Prior to the close of the Revolution there were census enumerations made in the various colonies but at irregular intervals. A good account of these is given in *A Century of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth,* published in 1909 by the Bureau of the Census. However, as far as is now known the only colony-wide census returns which gave the names of the householders or individuals were those of Rhode Island in 1774, *Census of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations . . . 1774,* by John R. Bartlett (1858), and Maryland in 1776, some schedules of which were printed in *Maryland Records,* vols. I and II (1915-1928) by Gauis M. Brumbaugh. Those of the remaining counties which have survived are at the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md., and have been indexed. The first census taken within the area now comprising the United States was the famous "Muster of the Inhabitants of Virginia 1624/1625", which has been printed in *Adventurers of Purse and Person,* by Annie Lash Jester and Martha Woodroof Hiden (1956). From time to time in early colonial days there was a census of some specific locality but no attempt is made here to include such items as they are beyond the scope of this Manual.

2. Pension and Bounty Land records; Revolutionary War and War of 1812.—

(a) Federal pensions, given after all of our wars, are a source of much genealogical information. The soldier applied to the court in the county where he was then living. Some of the men were very old and ill and could not always remember all details of their service, or even of their life. If possible, they gave the year of enlistment, names of their officers, skirmishes and battles. Proof of service was required and often the applicant would name half a dozen or more men who fought with him. Under some pension laws the value of his property was required and names of his then dependants. In the case of a pension to a widow, evidence of marriage was required. Often Bible records were filed as proof. Applications for Bounty Land are also filed with the pension records. The originals of all these records are in The National Archives, Washington, D. C., and are available for research.

(b) *Information furnished depended on provisions of the law.—*

(1) Benefits varied under the various pension acts and therefore the persons eligible and information required to be furnished varies.

(2) Prior to 1818 the only pensions were those for the relief of officers and soldiers who were disabled in service. These are called the Old Invalid Acts. Most of the original papers in such cases were supposedly destroyed by the burning of the War Department building in 1800 and 1814. The names of the pensioners and in some instances certain information about them are to be found in *American State Papers; Claims* and in "Recently Discovered Records Relating to Revolutionary War Veterans Who Applied for Pensions Under the Act of 1792", abstracted and copied by Mary Govier Kennedy, Registrar General, NSDAR, published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly,* March and June 1958.

(3) The Act of March 18, 1818, covered officers and enlisted men of the Continental Establishment of the Army and Navy who were in "reduced circumstances". The period

of service required was for nine months at any time, or service to the end of the war.

(4) The Act of May 1, 1820, which was known as the "Alarm Act," required all pensioners then on the roll to file a schedule of property in their possession. As a result, many were dropped from the rolls.

(5) The Act of May 15, 1828, covered officers and men who had served to the end of the war.

(6) The Act of June 7, 1832, covered officers and men in the Continental Line, volunteers and militia, and of the Navy and Marines. Indigence was not a test under this Act. It was the first to provide for volunteers and the militia.

(7) The Act of July 4, 1836, was the first to provide for widows of soldiers, if the widow was married to him *before the close of the soldier's service.*

(8) The Act of July 7, 1838, provided for a widow who was married prior to January 1, 1794.

(9) The Acts of March 3, 1843, February 2, 1848, and July 29, 1848, provided for widows who had married the soldier prior to January 1, 1800.

(10) The Act of February 3, 1853, provided for widows who had married after January 1, 1800.

(11) All these pensions ran for a term of five years. They were continued by Acts of Congress from time to time and by the Act of June 3, 1858 all pensions were continued for life.

(12) The Act of July 29, 1848, referred to above, required that the marriage take place between January 1, 1794, and January 1, 1800, and if the widow did not receive a pension under this Act while living, after her death her children could apply for the amount of pension due from the passage of the Act until she died.

(13) The Act of February 14, 1871, provided for all soldiers and sailors of the War of 1812 who had served 60 days in that war, and the widows of such men who were married prior to February 17, 1815.

(14) The Act of March 9, 1878, provided for all widows of soldiers and sailors of the Revolution, and for soldiers and

sailors who had served 14 days in the War of 1812 or who were engaged in battle, and the widows of such men without regard to date of marriage.

(15) The Act of January 29, 1887, provided for soldiers and sailors of the Mexican War under certain conditions and their widows, who were 62 years of age or subject to pension for disability or dependency.

(16) The Act of July 27, 1892, provided for veterans of the Black Hawk war, Creek war, Cherokee disturbances, Seminole war from 1832-1842, and certain others and the surviving widows of such men.

(c) While the number of persons serving in the War of 1812 and subsequent wars was not a large proportion of the population, in view of the lack of vital records for the fifty years following the Revolution, these later pension records may provide valuable information as to the date of birth, marriage and changes of residence on the part of children of Revolutionary veterans.

(d) A pensioner was paid through an agency in the state of his residence. When he moved to another state, he was transferred on the agency books. Therefore, record of his transfer often will prove the identity of the pensioner.

(e) The date of death of a pensioner can sometimes be found, either because of notification that he had died and therefore payment was stopped, or because the family asked for the last payment (although probably in only ten percent of the cases did the family know they might ask for what was due from the last payment paid to the date of death). This information is not given in the pension record. However, if the name of the soldier, certificate number, date certificate was issued, annual allowance, and city and state of the pension agency, is noted from the information in the record, the attendant in the Search Room at The National Archives will furnish the searcher with certain books from the Old Auditor's Office through which search may be made for such information.

(f) *Bounty Land Acts, 1776-1855.*—

(1) The Act of September 16, 1776, granted land to soldiers of the Revolutionary War who continued to the close

of the war, or who were discharged by Congress, and to representatives of such soldiers "as shall be slain by the enemy". The number of acres received depended on the rank of the soldier.

(2) The Act of December 24, 1811, covered non-commissioned officers and soldiers who enlisted for five years unless discharged sooner in the War of 1812.

(3) The Act of December 10, 1814, increased the acreage allowed non-commissioned officers and men who "shall enlist after that" for the war.

(4) The Act of February 11, 1847, provided land for those who served in the Mexican War.

(5) By the Act of September 28, 1850 those who had served in the Indian Wars from 1790 to the date of the Act, in the War of 1812, or in the Mexican War, were entitled to bounty land. The Act of March 22, 1852, amended this to include troops of any state or territory who had served since 1812.

(6) The Act of March 3, 1855, provided certain bounty lands for officers, non-commissioned officers and privates who had served 14 days or in a battle in any war of the United States from 1790 to the date of the Act, and also for Revolutionary soldiers who had received less than 160 acres of bounty land under previous acts.

(g) *Published lists of pensions and abstracts of pensions.*—

(1) From time to time numerous lists of Revolutionary War Pensioners were published, but none were complete. In March 1943 the National Genealogical Society began the publication of an *Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications* as a "Supplement" to its *Quarterly*. This gives the name of the pensioner, state from which he served, and the designating number of the pension file, preceded by "S" for the soldier, "W" for a widow, and "R" for a rejected claim. (Frequently the rejected claim file will give more information about the soldier than one that was promptly accepted.) By June 1958 this index had reached the letter "T". When completed this will constitute a complete index of the Revolutionary War pensioners.

(2) From time to time abstracts of pension records have been published in various publications, notable among these being the abstracts appearing over many years in the National Genealogical Society *Quarterly*. Historical magazines in various states have published a few from time to time. The DAR library has typewritten abstracts of more than 60,000 pensions, all indexed.

(3) No general list has been published of pensions of the War of 1812, the Mexican War or the various Indian wars or the Regular Army.

(h) In using pension records to verify lineage papers, it must be remembered that (1) they are "self serving declarations", and (2) naturally, due to the advanced age of the persons making the declaration there may have been errors based on faulty memory. Also they were oral declarations, taken down in court and the person writing them may have misunderstood names or omitted a portion of what the old soldier or his widow said. All too often the soldier and even more frequently his widow had no definite knowledge of his age.

3. Vital Records.—

(a) The words, "Vital Records" are commonly used to indicate birth, marriage or death records kept or required to be kept by public authorities such as town, county, or state officers. They are used here in that meaning, and do not refer to dates of birth, marriage or death from church or cemetery records or from family Bibles or other records.

(b) In New England, from establishment of a town until state-wide registration was begun, vital records were kept in the towns.

(c) Outside New England, there was no general registration of births or deaths, except occasionally and for brief periods, prior to state-wide registration. (For the situation with respect to marriages, see Part I, par. 6(a).)

(d) The date of beginning the maintenance of state-wide records of this nature varies greatly in the different states, some beginning as early as 1840 and others not until 1926. Thus for birth and death records Wisconsin began in 1840, New Jersey in 1848, Massachusetts in 1850, Rhode Island in 1852,

Delaware in 1861, Michigan in 1867, Iowa and New York (outside New York City) in 1880. The remaining states began such records at various times after 1880. Some of the larger cities maintained records from an earlier date than that at which the state in which located began such records.

(e) Reference works such as *Research in American Genealogy,* by E. Kay Kirkham, and *Handy Book For Genealogists,* by George B. Everton, Sr., and Gunnar Rasmuson, under each state indicates the date from which records may be procured from the state office in that state, together with the name and address of the agency to which a request should be made.

(f) It should be remembered, however, that prior to the last twenty-five years, there was not the insistence on keeping public records that there is now and that often births and deaths were not recorded. It is probable, though, that 75% to 85% of those occurring between the date records begun to be kept in each state up to 1900 may be found. Since that time, records are probably fairly complete.

(g) Sometimes a state kept birth and death records for a time and then discontinued it. For example, in Virginia such records were kept from 1853 to 1896, and then not again until 1912, although some of the larger cities continued to keep them in the interim. Pennsylvania kept records of births, deaths and marriages for the years 1852, 1853, and 1854, and then discontinued it on a state-wide basis until 1906. In some states the counties began keeping birth and death records prior to the time the state-wide record was started.

(h) *Published vital records.*—

(1) Many of the Massachusetts Town Records of births, marriages and deaths prior to 1850 have been published. For lists of these, see *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* September, 1943, and December, 1957.

(2) The Connecticut Vital Records prior to 1850 have not been published but have been collected at the Connecticut State Library where an index is available. Microfilms of these records are in the Utah Genealogical Library at Salt Lake City, the State Historical Society at Madison, Wis., the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library, Mich., and the DAR Library in Washington, D. C.

(3) From time to time extracts of vital records in the colonial period or subsequently have been published, particularly in town histories or the leading historical and genealogical magazines. The bibliographies listed in Par. 5 hereof list many such items.

(i) While vital records are the official record of the event there recorded and are authoritative unless *proved* to be in error, it must be remembered that the information was furnished to the public authorities by members of the family, friends, a doctor, midwife, etc., and is only as accurate as the source of that information. For example, the birthplace of an aged parent may be stated to be in one state when actually the birth was in another and the parent was taken to the state reported when a young child.

4. Maps.—

(a) Maps are invaluable in genealogical research and therefore in the verification of lines of descent and as an aid to the establishment of the identity of individuals. The most important function served by the use of maps is the relationship of geographic features and the identification of localities. Often it is only through study of maps that one can readily determine a line of migration, or the probable location of records covering an area.

(b) For general use the outline maps of counties with accompanying information as to the date of formation of the county, similar to those shown in the *Handy Book for Genealogists* of the Everton Publishers, are useful. (See also Par. 5.)

(c) There were atlases for many states prepared by various commercial firms in the 1870s or thereabouts, which show the various counties or sections of counties and even give the names of householders. Many of these are listed or described in "County Atlases for Genealogical Use", by Tressie Nash Shull, reprinted from its *Quarterly* by the National Genealogical Society in its Special Publication No. 14, *General Aids to Genealogical Research.*

(d) For details as to natural features between 1884 and 1950, which are helpful in determining exactly where a person

lived and so aid identification, the series of quadrangles issued by the U. S. Geological Survey are of great value as they show by contours the hills and valleys, water courses, houses and often even churches and cemeteries. They are in varying scales but most of them are either one inch or two inches to the mile and therefore cover an area of some 20 miles. There is an "Index map" of each state, showing the area covered by each quadrangle, which may be procured by request or seen at most libraries. These maps are procurable from the Map Distribution Office, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C. 20025; they are also procurable in many cities from bookstores.

(e) Many old manuscript maps, made prior to 1870, are still available in the state libraries or forestry or land offices of the various states, and these may show landowners or residents and therefore, in case it is necessary for lack of other evidence, prove residence.

(f) While there are available lists of current and modern maps, there is, as far as now known, no one list of early maps (manuscript and printed) of the states, counties, and towns comprising these United States. A number of such maps are, however, listed in Clara Egli LeGear's *United States Atlases*, in bibliographies and in catalogues of the Library of Congress and other large libraries, and may therefore be readily located.

5. Bibliographies, indexes and other reference books.—

(a) In order to know the source material or compilations that have been printed, one must consult catalogues, bibliographies, and indexes. Following are listed some of these that are useful to the genealogist. It is obviously impossible to name all the important ones within a few pages but examples of various types relating to those areas settled during the Revolutionary era are given. (These titles are grouped according to subject matter and not geographically.)

(b) *Reference list of books, periodicals, and articles.—*

Writings on American History. 40 v. 1902-1952, continuing, covering 42 years. (1904-5 and 1941-7 omitted.) Includes all books published in U. S. and articles in some 300 to 500 periodicals during those years. (Recent volumes procurable from Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Varying prices, $1.50 to $3.50.)

Jacobus, Donald Lines. *Index to Genealogical Periodicals.* 3 vols. (1932-53)

Catalogue of the Genealogical and Historical Works, Library of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. (1940)

Munsell, Joel. *Index to American Genealogies.* (1900)

U. S. Library of Congress. . . . *American and English Genealogies in the Library of Congress* . . . (1919)

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History.* (1957).

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. *Guide to Genealogical and Biographical Sources for New York City (Manhattan), 1783-1898.* (1954)

Seversmith, Herbert F. *Long Island Genealogical Source Material* (National Genealogical Society Publication No. 9). (1948-49)

Passano, Eleanor Phillips. *An Index of the Source Records of Maryland, Genealogical, Biographical, Historical.* (1940)

Stewart, Robert Armistead. *Index to Printed Virginia Genealogies, Including Key and Bibliography.* (1930)

Draughton, Wallace R. *North Carolina Genealogical Reference, a Research Guide.* (1956)

North Carolina Historical Commission. *The Historical Records of North Carolina.* 3 v. (1938-39)

Easterby, J. H. *Guide to the Study and Reading of South Carolina History; A General Classified Bibliography.* (1953)

Yenawine, Wayne Stewart. "A Check List of Source Material for the Counties of Georgia". In *Georgia Historical Quarterly,* Sept. 1948.

Dorman, John Frederick. "Some Sources for Kentucky Genealogical Research" *National Genealogical Society Quarterly,* March 1954.

National Genealogical Society Quarterly. 1912-

New England Historical and Genealogical Register. 1847-

American Genealogist and *New Haven Genealogical Magazine.* 1922-

The Narragansett Historical Register. 9 v. (1882-91)

New York Genealogical and Biographical Record. 1870-

Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey. (1925-

New Jersey Historical Society; *Proceedings . . . A Magazine of History, Biography and Notes on Families.* 1847-

Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine. 1895-

Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography. 1877-

Maryland Historical Magazine. 1906-

Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. 1919-

The Virginia Genealogist. 1957-

William and Mary College Quarterly. 1892- (In 3 series)

Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine. (July 1919-April 1952.)

The North Carolinian; A Quarterly Journal of Genealogy and History. 1955-

The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine. 1900-

The Georgia Historical Quarterly. 1917-

The Mayflower Descendant: A Quarterly Magazine of Pilgrim Genealogy and History. 27 v. (1899-1925)

Hinshaw, William Wade. *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy.* 6 v. (1936-1950)

Noyes, Sybil; Libby, Charles Thornton; and Davis, Walter Goodwin. *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire.* (1928-39)

"Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire . . . 1635-1771", in *New Hampshire State Papers,* vols. 31-39.

Bowen, Richard LeBaron. *Massachusetts Records: a Handbook for Genealogists, Historians, Lawyers, and Other Researchers.* (1957) (See also para. 3(h))

Arnold, James Newell. *Vital Records of Rhode Island.* 21 v. (1891-1911)

Bailey, Frederick William. *Early Connecticut Marriages as Found in Ancient Church Records Prior to 1800.* 7 v. (1896-1906)

Manwaring, Charles William. *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records; Hartford.* 3 v. (1904-06)

Bowen, Clarence Winthrop. *The History of Woodstock, Connecticut.* 8 v. (1926-43)

Stiles, Henry Reed. *The History and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Conn.* 2 v. (1891-2)

New York Historical Society Collections; Abstracts of Wills on File in . . . City of New York . . . 1665-1801. 17 v. (1893-1913)

Fernow, Berthold. *Calendar of Wills on File and Recorded . . . at Albany . . .* 1626-1836. (1896)

Names of Persons for Whom Marriage Licenses were issued by the Secretary of the Province of New York prior to 1784. (1860) and *Supplement* (1898).

Foley, Janet, ed. *Early Settlers of New York State, Their Ancestors and Descendants.* 6 v. (1934-40.)

New Jersey Archives. 1st series. *Wills, 1670-1817,* v. 23, 30, 32-42. *Marriage Records, 1665-1800.* v. 22.

Stillwell, John Edwin. *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany: Data Relating to the Settlement and Settlers of New York and New Jersey.* 5 v. (1903-32)

Pennsylvania Archives. 1st to 7th series. 90 v. (1852-1914.)

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. *Guide To The Published Archives of Pennsylvania Covering the 138 volumes of Colonial Records and Pennsylvania Archives.* (1949.)

Egle, W. H., ed. *Notes and Queries, Historical, Biographical and Genealogical Relating Chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania.* 12 v. (1894-1901)

Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, and Hinke, W. J. *Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808.* (1934)

Fulton, Eleanore Jane. *An Index to the Will Books and Intestate Records of Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania, 1729-1850.* (1936)

Myers, Albert Cook. *Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania.* (1902)

Delaware, Public Archives Commission. *Calendar of Kent County, Delaware, Probate Records, 1680-1800.*

National Society of Colonial Dames of America in Delaware. *A Calendar of Delaware Wills, New Castle County, 1682-1800* . . .

Papers of the Historical Society of Delaware, No. 9. *The Records of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Wilmington, from 1697 to 1773.* (1890)

Archives of Maryland. 1883-

Cotton, Jane Baldwin. *Maryland Calendar of Wills,* 1635-1743. 8 v. (1901-28)

Brumbaugh, Gaius M. *Maryland Records, Colonial, Revolutionary, County and Church.* 2 v. (1915-28)

Torrance, Clayton. *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.* (1935)

Fleet, Beverly. *Virginia Colonial Abstracts.* 34 v. 1937-

Virginia County Records. 11 v. (1905-13)

Torrance, Clayton. *Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800.* (1931)

Waldenmaier, Inez. *A Finding List of Virginia Marriage Records before 1853.*

Chalkley, Lyman. *Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia: Extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta Co., 1745-1800.* 3 v. (1912)

Swem, Earl Gregg. *Virginia Historical Index.* 2 v. (1934)

Corbitt, David L. *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties.* (1950)

Hathaway, J. R. B. *The North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register.* 3 v. (1900-3)

North Carolina. *Colonial and State Records of North Carolina.* 30 v. (1886-1907)

Grimes, J. B. *Abstract of North Carolina Wills* (to 1760). (1910)

Olds, Fred A. *Abstract of North Carolina Wills from about 1760 to about 1800.* (1925)

Charleston Free Library. *Index to Wills of Charleston County, S. C. 1671-1868.* (1950)

Georgia Department of Archives and History. *Some Early Tax Digests of Georgia.* (1926)

LaFar, Mabel Freeman. *Abstracts of Wills, Chatham County, Georgia, 1773-1817.* National Genealogical Society Publication No. 6. (1936)

Carter, Clarence E. *The Territorial Papers of the United States.* 20 v. 1934-

Lancour, Adlore H. "Passenger Lists of Ships Coming to North America, 1607-1825; A Bibliography" in New York Public Library *Bulletin,* v. 41, No. 5. (1937)

APPENDIX

A

"DOUBLE-DATING" OR CHANGES IN THE CALENDAR

The Julian Calendar (established during the days of the Roman Empire) began the year with March 25. A slight discrepancy in that calendar resulted over the years in a difference of eleven days. To correct this, the calendar was revised in the 16th century.

The new Gregorian Calendar was adopted on the Continent in 1582, but not completely in the British Isles until 1752.

Therefore, between 1582 and 1752 the days between January 1, the first day of the new year under the Gregorian Calendar, and March 25, the first day of the new year under the Julian Calendar, were shown as of both years, either by both years being shown in full, or by a diagonal line after the full first year followed by either the last or two last digits of the coming or new year. Thus February 2, 1678-1679, or February 2, 1678/79, or February 2, 1678/9 indicates the day was February 2 in 1678 by the Julian Calendar but 1679 by the Gregorian Calendar. (The last shown usage is the most common in early American records.)

In 1752, the Gregorian Calendar was adopted; the new year beginning with January 1 was made standard and the 11 days difference between the two calendars was dropped in September of that year.

All too often persons copying records with dates between January 1 and March 25 prior to 1752 have either dropped the final digit of the double-dated date, or have dropped the first one, therefore there is apt to be error of a year in a printed date. (Both methods were used by those preparing the Massachusetts Vital Records for publication, by workers on different town records.) If the year becomes important, as in connection with the birth of a first child, this should be remembered. It is also important, in connection with service in organizations requiring earlier service than the DAR.

It should also be noted that under the Julian Calendar the first month was March; under the Gregorian the first month is January. This must be taken into consideration when reading dates expressed in numerals in the original records. For example: "9th month" prior to 1752 was not September but November.

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SELECTED TERMS

adms.; admin.: administrator (of an estate) or administration.
acct.; account, usually report of executor or administrator.
ae; aet: of age; aged.
armiger; entitled to armorial bearings.
bp.: baptized.
bur.: buried.
c; ca.; cir.; circa: about (used in connection with dates).
ch.: children.
chr.: christened.
da.; dau.: daughter.
d.: died.
dec.; dec'd.: deceased.
d.s.p. (decessit sine prole): died without issue.
d.v.p. (decessit vite patris): died in his father's lifetime.
d.v.m. (decessit vite matris): died in his mother's lifetime.
dies: day of burial.
d/o: daughter of.
ead.; eadem: in the same way.
eodem: to the same -place, -purpose.
et ux.; et uxor; et uxoris: and wife.
ex.; exec.: executor.
exx.; exox.: executrix.
f.; fol.; folio: page.
gdn.: guardian.
H.S.; Hic situs: Here is buried.
ibid.; ibidem: the same.
Imp.; imprimis: in the first place (used in wills).
in loc. cit.; in loco citata: in the place cited.
intestate: died without having made a valid will.
inv.: inventory (of decedent's estate).
J.P.: Justice of the Peace.
l.; lib.; liber: book.
M.G.: minister of the Gospel.
M.M.; Monthly Meeting of Society of Friends (Quakers).
n.d.; no date.
n.p.: no place.
nunc.; nuncupative: oral will.
ob.; obiit.: died.
O.S.; Old Style; the Old or Julian Calendar (used before 1752).
op. cit.; opere citata: in the work cited.
p/a.; p.p.a.: power of attorney; per power of attorney.
pro.; prob.; prov.: probated or proved.
R.I.P. Requiescat in pace: Rest in peace.

sic: thus; when placed in brackets after a word or expression it means that such word or expression is exactly as shown in the record copied or quoted.

sine die: without date. (In case of a court or other meeting, an indefinite adjournment.)

s.l.g.; sine legit.: without legitimate issue.

s.p.; sine prole: without issue.

s.p.s.; sine prole supersite: without surviving issue.

spr.; spinster—or sponsor.

t.; temp.; tempore: in the time of.

tp.; twp.: township.

ux.; uxor; uxoris: wife.

v.; vidi.: see.

V.R.: vital records.

V.D.M.; voluns Deus: Minister.

x: placed between the given name and surname at the bottom of a document indicates that the person named confirms and thereby assents to the document. (Even when the words "His (or her) mark" appear above or below it, it does not necessarily mean that the person could not sign his name—since for some documents and at some times signing was not necessary if the person assented and sealed the document.)

/ : in early records a slant across the lower part of a P often indicates omission of "er" or "ar".

— : a line over a letter often indicates a contraction, or omission of a letter.

C

FORMS OF NOTARIZATION AND ATTESTATION

1. An affidavit is a solemn oath made before a notary public as to the truth or accuracy of the statement made or the copy of a record. It should not be made lightly. If oath is made as to the accuracy of a copy of a record the person so swearing should personally check the copy with the record from which the copy is made. Such oaths may be made by the individual concerned merely as to the accuracy of a copy, or embodying an account of certain action taken, in which case the notary merely attests that the person swore to such copy being correct or such facts; or the person concerned may make an oral statement to the notary, duly swearing to it, and the notary make the statement in his (or her) own name, duly attesting to the facts as stated.

2. Following are samples of several forms of notarization. The words underlined constitute the form; the others are of course changed to reflect the circumstances of the particular case.

3. When a copy of a record or other paper is prepared, taken to the notary, and sworn to before such notary, who thereupon signs it and affixes the seal:

"Certified to be a true and correct copy.

(Signed) Jane Doe

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned, June 12, 1958.

Seal Richard Roe, Notary Public

My commission expires Dec. 31, 1958."

4. When the affidavit covers action taken by the person making it:

I, Jane Doe, of 2804 Fairfax Drive, Oxford, Penna., do hereby swear that on the 12th day of December 1954, I personally visited an abandoned burying ground on what is known as the Alexander Place, in Cecil Co., Md., and from the tombstones there standing copied the following: [here insert the copied material]
and I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original which is now in my possession (or in the possession of some other person named if such is the case).

Signed Jane Doe

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of January, 1958.

Richard Roe

Seal Notary Public

My commission expires Dec. 31, 1958.

5. When an oral statement of details is made under oath to the notary who thereupon completes the needed documents. (Usually the person prepares the statement in advance in the form in which the notary would prepare it and takes it to the notary, then in the presence of the notary and after being sworn, under oath recites the facts embodied in it. The notary then completes the document.)

On this 31st day of January, 1958, appeared before the undersigned, a Notary Public for and in the District of Columbia, Jane Doe, also of the District of Columbia, personally well known to me, who being duly sworn stated that on September 15, 1954, she had visited the Cokesbury Burial Ground, at Abington, Maryland, and therein saw the monument of the Doe family from which she copied the following: [here give the copied material]

Signed Richard Roe

Seal Notary Public

My commission expires Dec. 31, 1958.

6. When the document or record is taken to the notary who then makes a copy, or when it is taken together with a copy which the notary then checks with the document exhibited to him. (Usually the statement embodying the copy is prepared and taken to the notary with the original; the notary then checks it, adopts it as his own, and completes the statement. However, some notaries prefer to make the copy personally since they are to swear it is a correct copy.)

On this 31st day of January 1954, I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, for and in the District of Columbia, was shown by Jane Doe, also of the District of Columbia, a Bible which purported to be the Bible of one Joseph Roe, the title page of which reads [insert copy] which contained the following records: [give copy]

and I have carefully compared this copy with the original document submitted to me and hereby declare it is a true, and accurate copy thereof.

Signed Richard Roe

Seal Notary Public

My commission expires Dec. 31, 1958.

7. *Attestation before Chapter officers.*—When it is impracticable to have a copy of a record certified by a notary, the Registrar General, NSDAR will accept a copy attested to and signed by the applicant in the presence of the Chapter Registrar and another Chapter officer who sign also as witnesses. The form in par. 3 above should be used, except instead for the words "sworn to", substitute the word "attested" and the Chapter Registrar and other Chapter officer sign in lieu of the notary.

D

ANCESTRAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN VARIOUS SOCIETIES

Note: "Eligibility requirements of applicants for these various Societies are listed according to the most recent information received at National Headquarters."

1. Many organizations have been formed to perpetuate the memory of a particular event, location, period, racial group, etc. Each such organization has its own rules of eligibility and of evidence required. Many of them, like the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, do not accept membership in another organization as proof of a line of descent. However, it is sometimes helpful to know the requirements.

2. By request and as a service to members who may also be eligible to other societies, this appendix attempts to summarize the *basic ancestral* requirements of some of these societies. The list is by no means complete. It is sometimes difficult to contact appropriate officers of a society to get such information, especially if the organization has no permanent headquarters. Information about the ancestral requirements for membership in other organizations will be considered for inclusion in subsequent editions if it is furnished.

3. Some societies require members to prove their *lineal descent* from one who has been or can be identified with a specified event, location or period. Under certain circumstances a few of these organizations will accept proof of *collateral kinship* with such a person, in lieu of actual descent. Many of the National Societies require that membership be secured only through State Societies or Chapters. Such local groups frequently have their own supplementary requirements and rules for the election of new members. In a few instances, membership invitations are issued only by a membership committee, rather than by individual members of the organization. Such local variations have not been considered within the scope of this publication. The addresses given below, however, should enable those who are interested to write for such details.

4. *List of societies.—*

Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society.—Members must descend from "a man or woman who, with unfailing loyalty to the

cause of American Independence, served as a sailor, or as a soldier, or civil officer in one of the several Colonies or States, or in the United Colonies or States, or as a recognized patriot, or rendered material aid thereto". For details, see *Requirements for and Preparation of Application Papers.* Address: Corresponding Secretary General, 1776 D Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

Children of the American Revolution, National Society.—Same ancestral requirements as those listed above for Daughters of the American Revolution. Address: Executive Secretary, 1776 D Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20006

Colonial Dames of America, National Society of.—Members must descend from an ancestor in America prior to 1750 who rendered service in the Colonial period in founding a commonwealth, an institution which has survived and developed into importance, or held an important position in a Colonial Government, or by distinguished service contributed to the founding of the nation; such service must be before July 5, 1776 but shall include all signers of the Declaration of Independence. Address: Secretary, Dumbarton House, 2715 Que Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20007

Colonial Dames of America.—Members must descend from an ancestor who came to reside in America prior to 1776, and who was efficient in the service of the country by holding an important position in the Colonial Government, or who as a statesman or officer contributed to the achievement of American independence. Address: Executive Secretary, 421 E. 61st Street, New York, N.Y. 10021

Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century.—Members must descend lineally from an ancestor who was an historic founder or rendered certain designated civil or military service in the American Colonies prior to 1701. Address: National Headquarters, 2009 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century.—Members must descend from an ancestor who rendered service in the English Colonies in America between May 1607 and 1700.

Daughters of Colonial Wars.—Members must descend from an ancestor who rendered military service or was a member of a war-declaring body in one of the American Colonies prior to 1774.

Daughters of the American Colonists, National Society.—Members must descend lineally from a man or woman who rendered civil or military service in any of the Colonies prior to July 4, 1776. Address: National Headquarters, 2205 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, National Society.—Members must descend in an unbroken paternal line of either father or mother from an ancestor who settled in any of the Colonies now included in the United States of America between May 13, 1607 and May 13, 1687, provided that in this unbroken line is an intermediate ancestor who in a civil or military capacity or by other acts proving loyalty assisted in establishing American independence during the Revolutionary period.

Daughters of the Cincinnati.—Members must descend from "an officer of the line who joined the Society of the Cincinnati in his own right, or from an officer of the line who died prior to the adjournment of the first meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati held in Philadelphia in 1784. Or in default of any direct issue from an original member, with the consent of the Society, the Board may accept to membership the descendant of an officer who was eligible according to the Institution of the Cincinnati who did not join, but whose claim has been acknowledged by one of the State Societies."

Descendants of the Colonial Clergy, Society of the.—Members must descend from "an ancestor who was a clergyman regularly ordained, installed or settled over any Christian church within the limits of the thirteen colonies prior to July 4, 1776".

Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.—Members must be lineal descendants of a Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Address: Secretary General, 2129 Delancey Place, Philadelphia 3, Penna.

Holland Society of New York.—Members must "be descended in the direct male line from a Dutchman resident in New Netherlands or some other settlement of the New World prior to 1675, or be descended from a man who was born within the limits of New Netherlands or who possessed the right of Dutch citizenship in New Netherlands prior to 1675". The membership roll is limited to 1,000. Address: Executive Secretary, 15 William Street, New York, N.Y.

Huguenot Society of Washington.—Members must descend from "(1) A Huguenot who prior to the Promulgation of the Edict of Toleration, November 28, 1787, emigrated from France to America or other country, or (2) a Huguenot who, in spite of religious persecution, remained in France until or after the Promulgation of the Edict of Toleration."

Mayflower Descendants, General Society of.—Members must descend from "a passenger on the Mayflower on the voyage which terminated at Plymouth, New England, in December, 1620". Address: National Headquarters, Mayflower Society House, 4 Winslow St., Plymouth, Mass.

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America.—Members must be "lineally descended, in the male line of either parent, from an ancestor who settled in any of the Colonies now included in the United States of America prior to May 13, 1657, and one or all of whose intermediate ancestors, in the same line, who lived in the period of the Revolution, from 1775 to 1783, adhered as patriots to the cause of the Colonies."

Pennsylvania German Society.—Members must descend from an "ancestor of Germanic origin who was an early settler in Pennsylvania". (In Pennsylvania by 1808). A basic source book, published by this Society in 1934, is *Pennsylvania German Pioneers,* by Strassburger and Hinke.

Society of the Cincinnati.—"The Society of the Cincinnati is composed of thirteen State Societies, one in each of the Continental States, and a Society in France. Generally, an applicant is expected to join the Society in the State from which his progenitor served as an officer in the American Revolution. . . . Only one descendant may represent an Original Member or an officer eligible under the (Society's) Rule of 1854. The prior right to a membership is given to the eldest son in a direct line of descent from

an officer, and if there are no sons, the right may come down through a maternal line. If to all knowledge the direct line of descent is extinguished, the collateral line, that is, descent from a brother or sister of an officer, is considered." Address: Secretary General, 2118 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

Sons of the American Revolution, National Society.—Members must descend from "an ancestor who was at all times unfailing in loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, or minute man in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, or of any one of the several Colonies or States; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence; or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain." Address: Executive Secretary, 2412 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

Sons of the Revolution, General Society.—Members must descend from an ancestor "who served with the American Forces during the Revolution of 1776." Address: Executive Secretary, Fraunces Tavern, 54 Pearl Street, New York, N.Y.

United States Daughters of 1812, National Society.—Members must descend from "an ancestor who rendered civil, military or naval service to this country during the years 1784-1815, inclusive." Civil service must have been in one of seven specified capacities. Military or naval service may have been in one of sixteen specified insurrections or wars.

War of 1812, General Society of the.—Members must descend from "one who served with honor during the War of 1812, between June 19, 1812 and February 18, 1815, in the army, navy, marine corps, or voluntary service of the United States; or as a member of the ship's company on any public armed vessel of the United States or any vessel sailing under letters of marque and reprisal issued by the United States; or in the militia of any state or territory or the District of Columbia duly called out for service against an armed enemy or for coast or border defense . . ."

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